

Amendment to the Specification:

Page 1, below the title and above "TECHNICAL FIELD", please insert the following new paragraph:

--This application is the United States national phase application of International Application PCT/JP2003/008291 filed June 30, 2003.--

On page 9, please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] FIG. 2 shows a lattice arrangement of the fuel rods within the MOX fuel assembly according to another embodiment of this invention. The MOX fuel assembly according to this embodiment differs from that of the first embodiment only in that ~~four~~ twenty (20) of the thimble for guiding control rods within the 17 x 17 lattice arrangement are replaced with burnable poison rods (BP rods) 6 that do not contain fuel materials, such as uranium dioxide, and consist of neutron absorbing nuclear species, such as boron, other respects being not substantially different from a configuration shown in FIG. 1. Because of this minor difference, constituents in FIG. 2 corresponding to counter parts in FIG. 1 are designated by the same numerals.